

**TOWN of
MERRIMAC
MASSACHUSETTS**



**2002
ANNUAL REPORT**



Merrimac Town Hall at Holiday Season

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
OFFICERS, BOARDS
and
COMMITTEES
of the
TOWN OF MERRIMAC
MASSACHUSETTS

For the Year Ending December 31, 2002



*In
Memory
of those
Who Have Held
Public Office
In the
Town of Merrimac*

Wilbur Wallace

*Light & Water
Commissioner*

Francis Matthews

Police Officer

George Hoyt

Animal Inspector

David Stewart

Fire Department

Linda Claeys

Library Trustee

Louis Nucci

*Conservation
Commissioner*

DIRECTORY OF ELECTED OFFICERS

Moderator

One Year

Robert Bender

Board of Selectmen

Three Years

Alan J. Dunn, Chairman

Janet M. Bruno

Mark W. Brooks

Term Expires 2003

Term Expires 2004

Term Expires 2005

Board of Assessors

Three Years

Edward R. Davis, Chairman

Diane Cole

George Mutti

Term Expires 2003

Term Expires 2004

Term Expires 2005

Planning Board

Five Years

Robert Sinibaldi, Chairman

Rick Pinciario

John Thomas

Earl Baumgardner

Ray Gingras

Term Expires 2006

Term Expires 2003

Appointed 11-02—5-03

Term Expires 2004

Term Expires 2005

Patricia True, Secretary

Constables

Three Years

Arthur Evans

Daniel Ross

Michael Sloban

Tree Warden

Three Years

Wayne Armstrong

Town Clerk

Three Years

Patricia True

Term Expires 2004

Board of Health

Three Years

Laura Weaver

Deborah Ketchen

Eileen Hurley

Term Expires 2003

Term Expires 2004

Term Expires 2005

School Committee

Three Years

Anthony Castiglione

Janice Nelson

Arthur O'Keefe

Guillaume Buell

Term Expires 2003 06

Term Expires 2004 07

Term Expires 2005

Term Expires 2005

Guillaume

Trustees of Public Library

Three Years

Nanette Becker, Co-Chair
Yvonne Cosgrove, Co-Chair
Susan M. Coburn
Susan Hebenstreit
Jeffrey W. Hoyt
Ellen Evans

Term Expires 2005
Term Expires 2005
Term Expires 2003
Term Expires 2003
Term Expires 2004
Term Expires 2004

Playground Commission

Five Years

Philip Parry
Donald Ackerman
~~Peter Kitsakes~~
David Creesey
Kuehn

Term Expires 2005
Term Expires 2007⁰⁷
Term Expires 2003⁰⁶
Term Expires 2006
" 04

Municipal Light Commissioners

Three Years

Frederick Underwood
Norman Denault, Chairman
Louis Bibeau

Term Expires 2004
Term Expires 2005
Term Expires 2003

Municipal Water Commissioners

Three Years

Frederick Underwood
Norman Denault, Chairman
Louis Bibeau

Term Expires 2004
Term Expires 2005
Term Expires 2003

Cemetery Trustees

Three Years

Patricia Casey
Gordon Rines
Elizabeth Emery

Term Expires 2003
Term Expires 2004
Term Expires 2005

Sewer Commissioners

Three Years

Michael Fall
Richard Herbert
John Buzzell

Term Expires 2004
Term Expires 2005
Term Expires 2003

Merrimac Housing Authority

Five Years

Dorothy A. Cloyd
C. Shirley Jones
Altha Ottman
Stephen P. True
Geraldine Shephard

(Gov. Appointed)

Term Expires 2005
Term Expires 2006
Term Expires 2007
Term Expires 2003⁰⁸
Term Expires 2004

DIRECTORY OF APPOINTED OFFICERS

Finance Committee

John Cryan
Judith Armstrong
Timothy Sheehan
Michael Baumert

Michael Arndt, Chairman
Maureen Moran
Joseph McKenna

Board of Appeals

Patrick Melican, Chairman
Arthur Amirault, Alt
Gordon Broz
Joseph Moran
Paula Hamel

Mark Townsend
Ronald Dandurant
Kathleen Walker
Joshua Jackson

Conservation Commission

Robert Prokop, Chairman
Paul Geoghegan
Jon Pearson
Deborah Woodward

Louis Nucci
Robert Topitzer
Arthur Yarranton

Building Inspector

Philip Hagopian

Rent Control Board

Sandra Venner

Beth Yuskaitis

Fire Department

Ralph Spencer, Chief

Norman Armstrong, Deputy Chief

Larry Fisher, Deputy Chief

Plumbing & Gas Inspector

Gaetano Caruso

Wiring Inspector

John Collins

Highway Department

Calvin Eaton, Superintendent

Board of Registrars

Natalie Christie

Betty Elliot

Dorothy Whiting

Town Counsel

Ashod N. Amirian

Finance Director, Treasurer, Collector

Frank H. Messer

Town Accountant

Debra A. McGrane

Assistant Town Treasurer

Carol McLeod

Tax Collector

Geraldine Gozycki

Selectmen's Secretary

Barbara J. Arbour

Animal Control Officer & Inspector of Animals

Madeline Cirinna

Cultural Council

Kendra Bowker, Chairperson
Lisa Nihan, Treasurer
Joyce Zarins
Ronald Jones
Iris Minc
Shelly Killian
Mary Miles
Helen Koolian

Ann Tucker, Secretary
Susan Coburn
Kathie Jones
Susan Hebenstreit
Carole Cavanaugh
Gage Cogswell
Hanna Trautmann
Nancy Perkins

Veterans Agent

Ronald Koontz

Historical Commission

Bruce Alexander
Pat Casey

J. Leonard Bachelder
Jeffrey W. Hoyt

James Hume

Emeritus members: Walter D. Calnan, Evelyn Calnan, Charlotte McCarron

Town Forest Committee

George Wallace

Marie Sutherland

Robert Topitzer

Council on Aging

Colleen Fiorello, Chairperson
Mary Cheney
Herb Gynan
Irene Kimbrell
Dorothy Cloyd
Victor Perrault

Dorothy Lumsden
Inez Lund
Roy Minihan
Terri Walden
James Murphy

Trustees of Kimball Park

Barbara Arbour

Yvonne Bednarz

Joyce Spinelli

Open Space Committee

Paul Geoghegan
Nancy Perkins
Deborah Woodward
Sandra Venner

Laura Schlosser
Tom Graziano
Roy Rigordaeva
Michelle Carley

Emergency Management Director

Ralph Spencer

Town Nurse

Eileen Stepanian

Capital Planning Committee

Sandra Venner
Edward Madden

Michael Arndt
Janet Bruno

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MERRIMAC BOARD OF SELECTMEN
for the year ending December 31, 2002**

To the citizens of Merrimac:

This year has been a very busy and challenging time. Our town continues to be in excellent financial condition. This is largely due to the excellent work of our finance department. Our annual financial audit continues to report positive results, which is reflected in the excellent bond rating our town has maintained. We were able to take advantage of that rating and the historically low interest rates to refinance old debt without extending the term and to finance new debt, saving the town over \$400,000 in interest.

After the May elections the Board of Selectmen reorganized and elected Alan J. Dunn as Chairman and Janet M. Bruno as Clerk. Ms. Bruno continues to be our delegate to the Capital Planning Committee and the Master Planning Committee. We welcome Mark Brooks as our new Selectman and thank outgoing selectman Jeffrey W. Hoyt, who chose not to run for re-election. Mr. Hoyt served four terms and we will miss his vast knowledge of the Town and his sense of humor. He will remain very active as a Library Trustee, a member of the Library Building Committee and the Merrimac Historical Society.

The Master Plan was completed and the implementation has already begun. This plan looks ahead 20 years, and if implemented correctly, will utilize Merrimac's cultural, economic and social diversity. It supports our seniors as well as our children, provides excellent educational opportunities and provides an affordable community for all citizens of our town. It also maintains open space and utilizes the benefits of Lake Attitash and the Merrimack River. The implementation is critical and the Board of Selectmen will support any action towards the established goals. The Board of Selectman thanks all who have participated in this worthwhile project, and particularly the efforts of Sandra Verner who has co-chaired the committee with Earl Baumgardner. Many who participated in the project from inception are now involved in the implementation process. One critical component is the re-write of the Town's Zoning By-laws during the next year.

The Town Hall renovation project began this year and is somewhat behind schedule due to the historically cold and snowy winter. The Town Hall Building Committee meets regularly to monitor the project and ensure it remains within the allotted budget. When completed we will have a beautifully restored building of historical significance that will be totally functional and user friendly for many years to come. We are confident that the residents will be proud of the end results. We commend the efforts of the Building Committee and Bill Dow who has acted as our Clerk of the Works for this enormous project.

The biggest challenge our Town faced this year was the 40B Comprehensive Permits. This is the process by which a developer can override local zoning regulations providing they agree to build a certain percentage of "affordable" units. Knowing that we did not have Beacon Hill, the Housing Appeals Court or Superior Court on our side, we chose to take control of a bad situation rather than fighting a losing battle.

We have worked very closely with the Appeals Board to tailor the kind of projects we believe will become an asset to our community. Only time will tell. The year 2003 will be very critical for our Town in regards to 40B's. The time expended by the Zoning Board of Appeals has been substantial as we struggle with the hearings and information for consideration and decision.

The Library Trustees received notification that grant funding would be available in 2003 for the new Library. The Town's portion of the costs was approved at Town Meeting in 2001. Construction should begin in 2004.

Finally, we wish to thank all elected and appointed boards and committees and our town employees for their selfless and dedicated service. An early retirement option available through the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was taken by several eligible employees, some of whom will continue to work part-time for the town until restructuring and realignment of duties is accomplished. We wish them well and thank them for their service and commitment.

Respectfully submitted,
MERRIMAC BOARD OF SELECTMAN

Alan J. Dunn

Janet M. Bruno

Mark W. Brooks

2002 REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

To: The Honorable Board of Selectman
The Citizens of the Town of Merrimac

Once again the Firefighters and EMT'S have gone above and beyond what is expected of them as call Firefighters/EMT'S answering 689 calls for this past year of 2002.

Not only answering the calls but the members under the direction of Deputy Chief Larry Fisher and Captain Greg Habgood managed to attend more training sessions this year than any other year. These training sessions are not only in house but many were attended at the Fire Academy in Stow, MA and other locations throughout the State.

The Departments S.A.F.E. program (students awareness of fire education) logged many hours of training for the students in our public schools. One of the main attractions in this year's program was Cinder the fire safety clown played by Kate Hanson, a Firefighter-Paramedic from Chatham Fire Department on the Cape. Cinder has made her second trip to Merrimac Public Schools and is a delight for the students and teachers to watch.

We wish to thank Kate and Cinder for their wonderful program of fire safety.

Deputy Armstrong and Fisher attended a two-day training session on how to teach S.A.F.E in the schools, which brings the number of instructors to 6 in the department.

We wish to thank the School Principals and Teachers for their support in letting us enter their class rooms.

The Merrimac Fire Department also applied for 2 grants this past year and was awarded both. The first being a grant from F.E.M.A. for \$45,000 for the replacement of our air bottle refilling station, and also replacing a few air packs on the truck making the packs much lighter than the old ones. The second grant was from the State Office of Public Safety for \$21,000. This will be used to replace some worn out bunker gear and helmets and also will provide personal face pieces for each of our firefighters which is recommended by N.F.P.A.

The Board of Fire Engineers want to let the Citizens of the town know that we have the highest regards for the Board of Selectman in which through some tough calls this past year were standing there patting us on the back and giving their full support for what ever we needed to make our job easier.

To the Firefighters and EMT'S we wish to again thank you for all of your valuable time away from your families that you give us and for working with the Board of Engineers to make this department a truly well organized department. Your dedication to this department makes you stand out in the eyes of others.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Board of Fire Engineers

Ralph W. Spencer
Chief

Norman Armstrong
Deputy Chief

Larry Fisher
Deputy Chief

MERRIMAC FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

Chief Ralph W. Spencer*

Deputy Norman Armstrong*

Deputy Larry Fisher

Officers

Captain Mike Sloban

Captain James David

Captain Brian Peavey, Jr.*

Captain Greg Habgood*

Lt. Wayne Smart*

Lt. Lester Smith

Lt. Mark Soucy*

Members

Arthur Amirault

Steve Brown*

Loren Clark

Bruce Daniels*

Harry Ellis*

Thomas Flinn

Richard Holcroft

Thomas Jordan

Robert Judson Sr.

Nate Korpusik

Elaine McCarthy*

Brian Michaud*

David Owens*

James Sevigny

Kristofer Smith

Albert Berard

Timothy Carey*

Brandon Cox

Derek DeMarco

Steve Evans

Bill Greene

James Hume

Cliff Judson

Mark Judson

Scott Maker

Michael McLeieer

Patrick Noone

Stephanie Sears

Eric Shears*

Kathy Spencer*

*Denotes EMT

**MERRIMAC FIRE DEPARTMENT
INCIDENT TYPE REPORT (SUMMARY)
ALARM DATE BETWEEN (01/01/2002) AND (12/31/2002)**

Incident Type	Count	Percent
(1) Fire	68	9.88%
(2) Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat-no fire	2	0.29%
(3) Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incidents	473	68.75%
(4) Hazardous Conditions (No Fire)	42	6.10%
(5) Service Call	33	4.79%
(6) Good Intent Call	28	4.06%
(7) False Alarm & False Call	36	5.23%
(8) Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	1	0.14%
(9) Special Incident Type	<u>5</u>	<u>.072%</u>
TOTAL INCIDENTS RESPONDED TO BY	688	100.00%
THE MERRIMAC FIRE DEPARTMENT		

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of the Town of Merrimac, Massachusetts:

I hereby submit my annual report of the activities of the Police Department for the Year 2002.

The members of the Merrimac Police Department and I wish to extend our sincere gratitude to the citizens of the Town of Merrimac, the Board of Selectmen and other Town Departments who have assisted us this past year. We thank you for your continued support of the Merrimac Police Department in the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Flynn, Jr.
Chief of Police

Chief of Police
James A. Flynn, Jr.

Sergeant
Eric M. Shears

Patrolmen

Arthur D. Evans (retired 12/31/02)
Daniel A. Ross
David J. Vance

Stephen M. Ringuette
Charles W. Sciacca

Reserve Police Officers

Scott M. Bucuzzo
Edward A. Cardone, Jr.
Joseph E. Kelly
Michael R. McGrath
Heather M. O'Connor
Mark E. Sayers
Edward Syvinski

Brian A. Cardone
Arthur D. Evans (1/1/03)
Nathaniel B. Korpusik (11/25/02)
James T. Mikson
David C. Rich
James M. Seymour
Brian M. Thiboult

Dispatchers
Linda A. Seymour
Clerk/Dispatcher

Bonnie J. Bishop

Terry L. Sullivan

Benjamin A. Douglas

Part-Time Dispatchers

Richard P. Holcroft
Michael O. McLeieer
Kathy A. Spencer

Nathaniel B. Korpusik
Brian W. Peavey, Jr.

Janitor
Madeleine A. Lay

Matrons

Bonnie J. Bishop
Kathy A. Spencer

Linda A. Seymour
Terry L. Sullivan

Honorary Police Officers

Alan Hassig
Richard G. Noone

Alfred Nichols
Brian W. Peavey, Sr

POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 2002

General Services	2,141
Assault & Battery	3
Breaking and Entering	54
Larceny	50
Stolen Motor Vehicles	6
Recovered Stolen Motor Vehicles	3
Assault (Threats)	3
Forgery & Counterfeiting	1
Vandalism	60
Weapons Violations	7
Sex Offense Complaints	3
Drug Law Violations	1
Intoxicated Driver Complaints	19
Disorderly Conduct	5
Field Investigation	129
General Offenses	6
Trespass Complaints	10
Civil Complaints	9
Juvenile Offenses	73
Violation of Local Ordinances Complaints	27
Missing Persons	13
Lost & Found	67
General Disturbances Complaints	28
Family Disturbances Complaints	44
Gathering Disturbances Complaints	58
Youths in Street Complaints	24
Noise Complaints	101
Annoying Phone Call Complaints	28
Suspicious Activity Complaints	173
Boating Complaints	3
Officers Wanted	727
Escorts	2
Prisoner Transports	6
Assist Citizens	261
Tow	9
Transport	30
Building Checks	415
Message Deliveries	176
Animal Complaints	259
Assist Municipal Agencies	247
Emergency Services	4
Ambulance Calls	338
Medical/Mental Calls	30
Reported Deaths	3

Incapacitated Persons	3
Fire Alarms	143
Assist Other Police Departments	321
Traffic Stops	1,581
Speeding Complaints	4
Leaving the Scene of an Accident	12
Vehicle Accidents, Personal Injury	24
Vehicle Accidents	56
Traffic Control	10
Abandoned Motor Vehicles	13
Intra-Department Services	3
District Court Appearances	147
Superior Court Appearances	7
Servicing Cruisers	65
Motor Vehicle Pursuits	2

CITATIONS ISSUED

Warnings	194
Summons	310
Arrests	35
TOTAL	539

ARRESTS FOR THE YEAR 2002

Male Residents	23
Male Non-Residents	37
Female Residents	4
Female Non-Residents	4

Juveniles

Male Residents	9
Male Non-Residents	2

PROTECTIVE CUSTODY FOR THE YEAR 2002

Male Residents	11
Male Non-Residents	10
Female Residents	2
Female Non-Residents	2

Juveniles

Male Non-Residents	4
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SUMMONS SERVED

Us	3
Other	28

**REPORT OF THE
PENTUCKET REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
for the 2001-02 YEAR
Ending June 30, 2002**

This annual report of the school department activities for FY'02 has been developed by the principals of the Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir School, Helen R. Donaghue School, Pentucket Regional Middle School and Pentucket Regional High School on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools and the Pentucket Regional School Committee.

Margaret J. Muench, Chairman
Catherine A. Crawford, Vice Chairman
Leslie R. Murray, Secretary
Karen C. Letourneau, Treasurer
Anthony L. Castiglione
Carol A. Grazio
Nan Hocking-McDonough
Todd A. Treado
Sally Cookman
Brian L. Young
Marla S. Andrews
George W. Mavroides

PENTUCKET REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2002

It is a pleasure to submit our annual report for the Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir School and the Helen R. Donaghue School for the 2001-2002 school year. During 2001-2002 we worked toward the School Committee's mission to "ensure that all students discover and develop their talents and abilities to their highest potential, strive for academic excellence, acquire respect for self and others, and obtain the knowledge and skills to succeed and contribute as ethical, responsible citizens."

Our school year began with a wonderful new event organized by PTO member Susan Karalias. "Merrimac Goes Back to School Day" celebrated the opening of school. Families had an opportunity to visit classrooms, meet teachers and obtain information about the school, community, and PTO. The October 1, 2001 enrollment was 376 students in grades Preschool through grade 2 at the Dr. Sweetsir School and 399 in grades 3 through 6 at the Helen R. Donaghue School, an increase of only several students at Sweetsir, and a slight decline at Donaghue.

In the aftermath of the September 11th tragedy, our school community collected \$3,270.00 for the *New York Police and Fire Widow's and Children's Benefit Fund*, as well as supplies of work clothes and non-perishable food for the relief workers. The school staff worked together throughout the year to make the children feel safe, connected and secure.

The following School Improvement Plan goals were developed from a parent and teacher survey and were focused on during the 2001-2002 year:

- To increase teachers' knowledge of standards-based curriculum, instruction and assessment;
- To promote partnerships that will increase parental and community involvement in promoting the social, emotional and academic growth of children;
- To examine the current state of technology in our schools and to design a plan to help all students achieve by improving teaching and enhancing student access to technology;
- To promote improved student achievement in mathematics.

One teacher from each grade level piloted math programs during the first half of the year, and in the spring the District voted to adopt the Everyday Mathematics program for full implementation for the school year 2002-2003. The staff also continued its curriculum review in the area of English Language Arts to ensure that our programs are aligning with the state frameworks. Staff continues to use student, school, and district MCAS results to review curriculum and instruction and plan for improvement. Students in Grades 3, 4, 5, and 6 took tests as part of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS). The percentage of students scoring at the proficient or advanced levels increased in Grade 3 Reading and in Grade 4 English Language Arts and Mathematics. The percentage of students scoring at these levels declined in Grade 6 Mathematics. The state has not yet set performance standards for Grade 5 tests in Science/Technology and History/Social Science. The Massachusetts Department of Education issued new accountability ratings based on the federal No Child Left Behind initiative, beginning with Grade 4 student test results. The Sweetsir and Donaghue schools received high performance ratings for the most recent accountability cycle, and they are on target to meet the improvement goals set forth by the state.

Technology continues to be a major goal for the Sweetsir and Donaghue staff and students. We continually work to integrate technology into the curriculum and enhance the skills of teachers and students. The ongoing support from the PTO has been instrumental in helping us upgrade hardware at both schools. We have accomplished a great deal in technology, but many of our goals remain in our School Improvement Plan for 2002-2003 year.

The Merrimac PTO, as always, emphasized the importance of a close working partnership with the administration, staff and parents. Through their dedication and hard work, this year the PTO donated \$26,000.00 to purchase computers for the Donaghue School, sponsored monthly cultural arts programs for all students, organized After School Exploration programs, coordinated teacher appreciation events, planned family fun nights, and supported our classroom programs by volunteering in our schools every day. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the PTO for their outstanding commitment to the children of Merrimac. Community support was also evident when Lisa Yeastedt and Liz Torrisi, parent volunteers, organized a "beautification" project for the Dr. Sweetsir School. Shrubs, plants and flowers were planted in memory of Linda Claeys, a founding member of the Merrimac PTO. We continue to encourage and foster a strong home-school-community partnership through our monthly newsletters, parent volunteer program, curriculum information nights, and the Holiday Helper Program.

Our Before and After School Program and our Extended Day Kindergarten Program continue to provide services to over 90 children daily. In October 2001, the Pentucket Preschool at the Dr. Sweetsir School received accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. We are certainly proud of this achievement!

In closing, the staff of the Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir School and the Helen R. Donaghue School wishes to extend its appreciation to all members of the Merrimac community for their support throughout the year.

We would like to acknowledge the service of the following staff members who retired in June 2002:

Ellen Evans, a second grade teacher who worked for 24 years at the Dr. Sweetsir School. Her enthusiasm and energy will be sorely missed.

Lucia DePamphilis served as a teacher, school psychologist, and special education coordinator for 33 years. Her hard work, dedication, and commitment to the families, students and staff were outstanding.

Annette A. Autiello touched the lives of many children, parents, and staff in the 34 years she worked as a teacher and principal in Merrimac. Her compassion, dedication, and concern for all students will be long remembered.

Angela Jerve, Principal
Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir School

Robert Harrison, Principal
Helen R. Donaghue School

PENTUCKET REGIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

The 2001-02 year at Pentucket Regional Middle School saw many notable events and changes.

Significant technology upgrades were implemented. A new computer lab was installed together with a new server which will allow us to develop electronic student portfolios. This upgrade has allowed us to take the older computers which were in the lab and place them in classrooms to be used as student workstations.

We were able to implement a plan to place, by team, record of homework assignments, and a calendar of events (as it pertains to team activities, test/quiz dates, and project due dates) on a website which was linked to a "button" on our web page. This provided all parents with immediate access to such information from home or local libraries. In the past, parents had to come to the school to view the postings in the office area. This year we are in the process of switching to a new site which is more user friendly. We will also be engaged in building our own homework site this year, as part of our web page, thereby eliminating the need to contract with others.

The Community Service Team which was begun last year continues to grow as we have become engaged with a wider variety of community agencies. We continue to have well over one hundred students involved with this team. The remainder of our co-curricular activities continue to remain strong and we continue to develop a variety of opportunities from which students may choose: art club, intra-murals that are season-appropriate, tennis, non-contact Tae-Kwon-Do, and numerous performing arts clubs including strings and percussion instruction.

The high school continues to utilize classroom space in the middle school and as the district grows so does the need for increased office space. Space issues at the middle school continue to exist even as it pertains to storage space.

We continue to develop and adjust curriculum development and adjustment. We are engaged in a 7 - 12 initiative to bring mathematics instruction more in line with NCTM and TIMSS standards. The elementary schools have adopted a curriculum to address those recommendations and the middle school is engaged in the text series selection process which will result in smooth transition from the elementary curriculum to the middle as it pertains to methods of teaching Math (a more integrated approach) and sequence of content.

Due to the special needs of elementary students entering the middle school, we have carpeted a second set of team classrooms, purchased "Phonic Ear" amplification systems for two teams, which included handheld "pass-around" microphones to serve our hearing impaired students. It is our intention to purchase this system for all teams as studies have shown this to be an effective learning tool for all students, especially students with ADD and ADHD.

We have had a dramatic increase in the number of students with language-based learning disabilities enroll from the elementary school. Hence, this year has seen the beginning of a Language Based Learning Center at the middle school.

*Renzo Binaghi, Principal
Pentucket Regional Middle School*

PENTUCKET REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

The high school continued its preparation for its ten-year reaccreditation visit by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. The accreditation process is a three fold process. The professional staff, students and parents completed a year-long self-study that focused on looking at teaching and learning standards having to do with mission and expectations for student learning, curriculum, instruction and assessment of student learning as well as support standards which were concerned with leadership and organization, school resources for learning and community resources for learning. It was followed by an on-site evaluation conducted by the Commission's visiting committee in March 2002. The visiting committee reported its findings to the school and the Commission with commendations and recommendations in June 2002. There will be a follow-up program carried out by the school to implement the findings of the self-study, recommendations of the visiting committee and those identified by the Commission in the follow-up process in the 2002-2003 school year.

Extra-curricular programs continue to be strong in the Fine and Performing Arts area. A Community Service Team has been formed at the high school in order to begin a community service initiative in the fall of 2002. One hundred and forty-four students volunteered over 3000 hours of their time this year. New clubs have been formed in Debate, French and Model United Nations.

Our MCAS scores place our students in the top twenty percent statewide. Seventy-seven percent of the Class of 2003 scored in the Proficient or Advanced category in Math and seventy-eight percent of the Class of 2003 scored in the Proficient or Advanced category in English Language Arts after the first round of the test. Seven percent of the students failed in Math and two percent of the students failed in English Language arts after the first administration of the test. We have just received the results of the spring of 2002 and only one student in the Class of 2003 has not passed the MCAS in English Language Arts.

*Arlene Townes, Principal
Pentucket Regional High School*

Listed below are the Merrimac members of the Class of 2001.

Richard Anderson, III	Kelly Flynn	Jennifer Hoyt	Joshua Reilly
Thomas Austin	Charles Fogg	Crystal Hume	Anna Roberts
Memorie Bancroft	Eric Fournier	Courtney Kilbride	Bryan Schlitt
Kathleen Brown	Jason Gauvin	Kaytlin Kitsakos	Heather Seeley
Guillaume Buell	Conor Giard	Andrew Legare	Leah Sheehan
Lindsay Cameron	Katherine Gilbert	Nicole Mansour	Keith Sherman
Lisa Cameron	Kimberly Gilbert	Stephen May	Matthew Strogney
Katie Campbell	Blair Gosselin	Melissa McCue	Jillian Tattan
Jennifer Carey	Jennifer Greeley	William McGoldrick, III	John Thomas
Joseph Carey	Elaine Gulezian	John Murphy	Amy Valvo
Amy Clark	Justin Haller	Theodore Natoli	David Willis
Joseph Consigli	Gregory Hart	Louis Nucci	Sara Zayat
Erik Countie	William Hart	Donald Piatti	
Alison Devaney	Jason Hayes	Olivia Piatti	

ANNUAL REPORT OF WHITTIER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

To: The Honorable Board of Selectmen
From: Paul Tucker, Whittier Representative
Karen Sarkisian, Superintendent

Whittier offers 19 vocational technical career areas designed to provide the necessary training and skills for personal and work force success.

Whittier's academic program is designed to offer students a broad base in fundamental skills through its core curriculum in English, Math, Science and Technology, Social Studies, World Languages, Physical Education/Health, and elective subjects and to afford students with varying abilities the opportunity to succeed.

Courses are designed in a sequential format and are integrated with the vocational-technical areas, wherever practicable and mutually beneficial. All academic courses offer advanced sections for students who desire to further their education. Moreover, a Tech-Prep program is offered to eleventh and twelfth grade students which parallels the College Prep program and provides students with the opportunity for college credit and/or advanced college placement.

Since all programs are open to both females and males, we encourage our students to explore and to specialize in non-stereotyped, non-traditional vocational-technical areas and to strive for the maximum realization of their goals and potential.

Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School is entering its thirtieth year. To date we have graduated 7,070 students from the day school.

The enrollment for the Evening School from Merrimac: 34

The October 1, 2001 Day School Enrollment:

	Boys	Girls
Grade 9	7	2
Grade 10	12	1
Grade 11	8	4
Grade 12	8	9

Total — 51

2002 Graduates—17

The cost to Merrimac for the school year 2001-2002 was \$399,037.00.

Respectfully yours,

Paul M. Tucker
Merrimac Representative

Karen Sarkisian
Superintendent

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE MERRIMAC PUBLIC LIBRARY

For the year ending December 31, 2002

To the citizens of Merrimac:

The trustees of the library are pleased to present their 126th annual report.

Major strides were achieved during 2002 towards the realization of our dream of a new, modern, and commodious library building for the town of Merrimac.

Early in November, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners announced the release of library construction funds (as generated from a bond bill passed by the legislature and signed by Acting Governor Jane Swift earlier in the year). Merrimac's library construction grant was among those to be fully funded in this round. The first check from the state, approximately \$500,000, was sent to the town at the end of the year.

Soon after the official word had been received from the Board of Library Commissioners, the trustees authorized the Building Committee and the architect to complete the Design Development phase and refine the cost estimates. With the assistance of many talented individuals and sub-committees, a construction budget has been finalized.

Taking advantage of a state sponsored early retirement program, Carole A. McCarthy, library director, submitted her resignation to be effective at the end of December. We wish to thank her for her 18 years of service to the Merrimac Public Library. An open house reception in her honor has been scheduled for February.

At the time of this writing, the trustees have started the process of advertising and interviewing for a new library director. As required by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 78, a written contract will be negotiated and signed by the new director.

The trustees thank all community members who supported the library in 2002 by their patronage, attendance, and donations.

We close with our mission statement.

The mission of the trustees is to ensure that the library is a service-oriented institution that is a source of information, recreation and cultural programs for all ages. This is accomplished through the employment of a director, adoption of policies, short and long- range plans, budget and analysis of feedback from the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Nan Becker
Yvonne Cosgrove
Co-Chairs of the trustees

MERRIMAC PUBLIC LIBRARY STATISTICS FOR 2002

Circulation	Adults	Juvenile	Subtotal	Total
Books/Periodicals				
Audio/Video	21,994	12,272	34,266	34,266
Acquisitions				
Purchased	2,789	2,364	5,153	
Donations	34	18	52	5,205
Withdrawn				
Books	2,721	2,001	4,722	
Nonprint	14	32	46	4,768
Inventory				
Books	19,532	11,748	31,280	
Periodicals	96	15	111	
Videos	844	200	1,044	
Audio	348	23	371	
Computer Programs	9	28	37	
(in library use)				32,843
Loan to other libraries			235	
Borrowed from:				
other libraries			539	
Supplementary				
Deposit Center			1,579	
Total Active Patrons	2,986	2,557	5,543	

Story hours, along with the evening PJ story hours and special programs accounted for 231 events held for children. Family entertainment was offered 4 times and 48 public meetings were accommodated. The library book club meets once a month and welcomes new members.

There has been a steady increase in internet use by both adults and juveniles. We welcome all new patrons. The Merrimac Valley Library Consortium, of which we are a member, now allows patrons to search the collections of member libraries and order a book from any library to be picked up in Merrimac. The Region has several databases that may be accessed from your home. If you need information or instruction on how to do this, please call the library for help.

Respectfully submitted,
Carole A. McCarthy, Director

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
INSPECTIONAL SERVICES
 2 SCHOOL STREET • MERRIMAC, MA 01860
 PH. (978) 346-0525 FAX (978) 346-0522

ANNUAL REPORT

	CALENDAR YEAR		+/-	
	2002	2001		
BUILDING PERMITS ISSUES				
New 1+2 Family Dwelling	17	23	-6	
Residential Addition/Remodel	152	111	41	
Accessory Building/Barn/Detached Garage	18	16	2	
Fireplace & Wood/Coal/Pellet Stove (independent)	4	10	-6	
Swimming Pool	20	14	6	
New/New-Replacement Manufactured Housing (M.H.)	7	12	-5	
Permit for Temporary Housing Unit	2	1	1	
Commercial—New/Addition/Remodel	7	6	1	
Foundation-Only Permit	0	1	-1	
Municipal Project	1	0	1	
Demolition Permit (independent)	2	4	-2	% Change
NUMBER OF BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED	230	198	32	16%

Revenue Value of Building Permits Issued	\$85,454,000	\$58,705.80		
Addendum to Open Building Permit	\$1,428.00	\$881.00		
Plan Review Fees (no permit issued)	\$200.00	\$100.00		
Building Permit Transfer Fees	\$400.00	\$400.00		
M.G.L. Sec. 106 Inspections	\$120.00	\$160.00	+/-	% Change
TOTAL Building Permit Fees	\$87,602.00	\$60,246.80	\$27,355.20	45%
TOTAL Wiring Permit Fees	\$20,482.00	\$14,967.00	\$5,515.00	37%
TOTAL Plumbing Permit Fees	\$5,650.00	\$6,270.00	-\$620.00	-10%
TOTAL Gas Permit Fees	\$4,955.00	\$4,580.00	\$375.00	8%
Enforcement Action Fees Collected (Includes Stop Work and Reinspection Fees)	\$1,358.00	\$1,110.00	\$248.00	22%
Copy and Miscellaneous Fees Collected	\$223.00	\$183.26	\$39.74	22%
TOTAL INSPECTIONAL SERVICES FEES	\$120,270.00	\$87,357.06	\$32,912.94	38%
Fees Waived by Selectmen	\$27,797.25	\$0.00		
TOTAL INSPECTIONAL SERVICES REVENUE	\$92,472.75	\$87,540.32		

Respectfully submitted,
 Philip J. Hagopian
 Building Commissioner / Zoning Enforcement Officer

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC WATER DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2002

The Board of Water Commissioners and Manager are pleased to submit the Annual Report of the Merrimac Water Department for the year 2002.

NEW CONNECTIONS: During 2002 there were 9 new homes connected to the town's water system, bringing the total number of connections to 1,697.

PRIVILEGE FEE: \$16,400 was collected during 2002 from individuals and developers for new service connections and deposited to Water Department Privilege Fee account. MWD utilizes this funding for various improvements to our distribution system.

ANNUAL PUMPING STATISTICS:

Gallons pumped from Bear Hill and East Main	146,732,000 - a decrease of 22,193,000 from 2001
Gallons sold to customers	131,465,636 - a decrease of 9,712,131 from 2001
Gallons use for hydrant flushing and Plant Backwash	5,292,959
Gallons Unaccounted for	9,973,405 - 6.79% of all water pumped could not be accounted for. Causes: Leaks, fire protection, theft, inaccurate meters.

Comparing winter vs. summer use: system-wide pumping increases by over 40% on a daily basis during the warmer months, even during periods of mandatory reduced watering. The majority of that increase is used to maintain plush green lawns. We hope to be able to better educate all consumers on the need for year-round conservation that will ultimately need to become a way of life

CONSERVATION PROGRAM: A water conservation program was developed during the year. MWD hired the firm Select Energy to oversee the program. Water audits to educate consumers about their water use has been made available to all residential customers. We have been working with the company to develop programs and other services to educate the public.

SURPLUS FUNDS/SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS: MWD ended FY02 with a surplus of \$45,486.59. Those funds are scheduled for transfer to the Water Department's Capital Fund for future system improvements.

In the summer of 2001, a Water Meter Replacement program funded by the department was initiated. All meters throughout the town are scheduled for replacement with an updated meter reading system that will provide for more accurate and efficient reading and billing. During the year 2002, approximately 300 meters were replaced for a total of 750 replaced to date.

The Department moved forward in its effort toward establishing a new water source. A permit application for Source Approval and a Pump Test Proposal was submitted to both Massachusetts and New Hampshire for review. We anticipate a response early in 2003 at which time we hope to move forward with the lengthy process related with obtaining approvals for a new water source.

The department wishes to thank all employees for their efforts throughout the year and wishes Jim Hume, who retired as Foreman of MWD in November, success in any future endeavors.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Soucy, Manager

Board of Light Commissioners

Louis Bibeau	Term Expires 2003
Frederick Underwood	Term Expires 2004
Norman Denault	Term Expires 2005

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

The following is a report of the Board of Sewer Commissioners for calendar 2002. The Merrimac Wastewater Treatment Facility is an extended aeration oxidation ditch process designed to treat 453,000 gallons of raw sewage and 1,000 gallons of septage per day. In 2002, 124,910,000 gallons of raw sewage were treated. The average daily flow treated was 342,225 gallons of raw sewage. The facility ended 2002 operating at 76% capacity. The wastewater treatment process generated 384 cubic yards of wet sludge that was recycled for agricultural re-use as approved by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

Many homes have sewer available to them and are not connected to the system. The Board urges those people to connect, as capacity is not saved at the plant. In 2002, 15 houses were connected to the system.

On November 2, 2002, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the Town of Merrimac was renewed by the US EPA. This permit is in force for the next five years. The permit also gives the Massachusetts DEP enforcement responsibility over the Merrimac Sewer Department for compliance with all the terms of the permit. As a result of which the Mass DEP issued an Administrative Consent Order (ACO) in October, 2002 requiring the Town of Merrimac to upgrade its wastewater treatment facility to accept the anticipated flows for the next twenty years. This upgrade is to be completed by January, 2005.

The fiscal year 2002 was a difficult year for the Sewer Department. Our two largest customers ceased operations leaving us with a considerable deficit. Advanced Laundry and Coastal Metal Finishing provided us with a large amount of flow and little solids.

The User Rate was increased as the department is solely funded by its rate payers. On December 4, 2002, a public hearing was held at the Town Hall Annex, as required by Mass. Law to explain the increase. This increase covers the deficit and current budget. The old rate was .45/100 gallons, the new rate is .65/100 gallons.

The Merrimac Wastewater Treatment Facility • Revenue Fiscal Year 2002

Invoiced User Fees	506,035.87	†(42,438.22)
Collected:		
User Fees	470,332.68	
Liens	33,371.56	
Fees & Licenses	2,087.50	
Betterments	4,999.18	
Total Collected		510,790.92
Expenditures Fiscal Year 2002		
O&M	514,518.25	
Debt Service	73,643.50	
Total Spent		<u>588,161.75</u>
	Loss	77,370.83
	*Transferred/Dev Fund	30,000.00
	Loss	47,370.83

DEVELOPMENT FUND

Balance end of Fiscal Year 2001	69,317.09	
Collected Fiscal Year 2002	54,408.77	
Total Collected		123,724.86
Expended		<u>32,811.65</u>
Balance End of Fiscal Year 2002		90,913.21
	*Transferred to O&M Fund	<u>30,000.00</u>
	Balance	60,913.21

*An auger grinder was purchased out of O&M and it was later determined to be a capital expenditure. Therefore, the funds were taken from the Development Fund.

† Uncollected User Fees

Respectfully submitted,
BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

John G. Buzzell, Sr.	Term Expires 2003
Michael P. Fall	Term Expires 2004
Richard L. Herbert	Term Expires 2005

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC LIGHT DEPARTMENT YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2002

The Board of Light Commissioners and Manager are pleased to submit the Annual Report of the Merrimac Light Department for the year 2002.

NEW SERVICES: During 2002 there were a total of 24 new electrical services added to the town's electric distribution system. The total number of electric meters in service at year's end was 2,648.

IMPROVEMENTS: Tree trimming was completed along Battis Road. This work prepared the area for a complete upgrade (conversion) of the distribution system to a higher voltage for improved efficiency and system reliability, which included the replacement of all poles, wire and transformers. Additional conversion work was also started along Hadley Road with completion of that area planned for 2003. 1,500' of new secondary and primary wiring was installed on Shore Road and Olde Road to accommodate new housing.

POLE REPLACEMENT/REMOVAL: A total of 18 poles were installed or replaced throughout the year for upgrades and new service attachments. A total of 15 poles were removed.

NEW BUILDING: MLD occupied its new garage facility in early spring after outgrowing garage and storage facilities that were shared with the Water Dept. at East Main Street Pump Station since 1904. The Federal Way property is immediately adjacent to our 13kv Substation at Mill Street. Several months were spent by our linecrew renovating the building. Much of the work done by the linecrew helped to save the Light Department a great deal of expense, thus making it possible to completely renovate the building.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TOWN:

In Lieu of Tax Payment:	\$13,000
Town Hall Building Project:	
Stock	\$13,524
606 Man Hours Labor	\$15,000 (approximate)
Unbilled Streetlight Usage:	\$15,656
Streetlight bulbs and fixtures:	\$ 4,855

Community: Merrimac Light Department prides itself in being more than just your local utility, by being involved with and being a part of the community. Throughout the year we provide assistance to other town departments in many different ways. We have helped local groups by hanging banners. We have worked with other nearby utilities assisting in times of mutual aid. In October we held an Open House/Safety Day at our new facility. It was a day of fun and learning for all who attended. Again this year we organized and held the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting. Employees of the department spent a good deal of time updating wiring to provide additional lighting this year. Other than the extreme cold of the evening, it was still a good turnout that was enjoyed by all.

Again, we owe our success to our employees. Without their dedication, we would be just another light department. Instead, we preserve our position of rates that range from 3rd to 4th lowest in the state. My sincere thanks to all of them and to the Commissioners for all their support and guidance over the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Soucy, Manager

Board of Light Commissioners

Louis Bibeau	Term Expires 2003
Frederick Underwood	Term Expires 2004
Norman Denault	Term Expires 2004

**MERRIMAC ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT
COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET 2002**

<u>ASSETS</u>	Balance Beginning of Year	Balance End of Year	Increase or (Decrease)
UTILITY PLANT			
101 Utility Plant — Electric	2,296,546.73	2,445,149.45	148,602.72
FUND ACCOUNTS			
125 Sinking Funds	719.17	719.17	0.00
126 Depreciation Fund	528,488.51	513,887.05	(14,601.46)
CURRENT AND ACCRUED ASSETS			
131 Cash	41,978.82	41,768.43	(210.39)
132 Special Deposits	41,541.06	37,416.50	(4,124.56)
132 Working Funds	60.00	200.00	140.00
142 Customer Accounts Receivable	157,985.64	92,428.41	(65,557.23)
143 Other Accounts Receivable			
146 Receivables from Municipality			
151 Materials and Supplies	15,001.94	15,001.94	0.00
165 Prepayments	14,501.00	23,564.00	9,063.00
165 Prepayments CTC charge	1,116,000.00	930,000.00	(186,000.00)
DEFERRED DEBITS			
183 Other Deferred Debits	<u>12,764.19</u>	<u>9,680.71</u>	<u>(3,083.48)</u>
Total Assets and Other Debits	<u>4,225,587.06</u>	<u>4,109,815.66</u>	<u>(115,771.40)</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>			
SURPLUS			
206 Loans Repayments	504,842.52	761,557.96	256,715.44
207 Appropriations for Construction Repayments	8,889.05	8,889.05	0.00
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus	2,257,584.03	2,161,224.90	(96,359.13)
LONG TERM DEBT			
221 Bonds			
231 Notes Payable	764,549.44	455,150.00	(309,399.44)
CURRENT AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES			
232 Accounts Payable	120,830.07	142,002.01	21,171.94
235 Customer Deposits	41,541.06	37,416.50	(4,124.56)
242 Miscellaneous Current and Accrued Liabilities	12,764.19	9,680.71	(3,083.48)
DEFERRED CREDITS			
252 Customer Advances for Construction	1,220.67	1,220.67	0.00
RESERVES			
260 Reserves for Uncollectable Accounts	12,637.74	12,637.74	0.00
CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION			
271 Contributions in Aid of Construction	<u>500,728.29</u>	<u>520,036.12</u>	<u>19,307.83</u>
Total Liabilities and Other Credits	<u>4,225,587.06</u>	<u>4,109,815.66</u>	<u>(115,771.40)</u>

**MERRIMAC ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT
STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR THE YEAR 2002**

	Current Year	Increase or (Decrease) from Preceding Year
OPERATING INCOME		
400 Operating Revenue	2,484,954.42	(11,458.30)
OPERATING EXPENSES		
401 Operation Expense	1,863,650.87	(60,629.70)
402 Maintenance Expense	173,163.67	(11,640.27)
403 Depreciation Expense	234,413.92	23,356.15
Total Operating Expenses	2,271,228.46	(48,913.82)
Operating Income.....	213,725.96	37,455.52
OTHER INCOME		
415 Income from Merchandising, Jobbing and Contract Work		
419 Interest Income	15,776.71	(18,492.14)
421 Miscellaneous Nonoperating Income		
Total Income	229,502.67	18,963.38
INTEREST CHARGES		
427 Interest on Bonds and Notes	43,377.25	13,278.41
431 Other Interest Expense		
Total Interest Charges	<u>43,377.25</u>	<u>13,278.41</u>
NET INCOME.....	<u>186,125.42</u>	<u>5,684.97</u>

	Debits	Credits
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at beginning of period)		2,257,584.03
433 Balance Transferred from Income		186,125.42
434 Miscellaneous Credits to Surplus.....		3,807.00
435 Miscellaneous Debits to Surplus	257,635.54	
436 Appropriations of Surplus.....	28,656.01	
437 Surplus Applied to Depreciation		
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at end of period)	<u>2,161,224.90</u>	
	<u>2,447,516.45</u>	<u>2,447,516.45</u>

TOWN OF MERRIMAC

Finance Director

2 School Street

Merrimac, MA 01860

(978) 346-9356

FAX (978) 346-8198

Honorable Board of Selectmen

Town of Merrimac

Massachusetts, 01860

Honorable Selectmen:

In accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Annual Financial Report of the Town Accountant for the Town of Merrimac, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2002 is herewith submitted.

The data represents a fair and accurate presentation in all material aspects of the Town's financial position and the results of its operations. Disclosures necessary to enable the reader to gain an understanding of the Town's financial affairs have been presented. Included are schedules on debt issue and servicing, a detailed listing of revenue and expenditures, a balance sheet for all fund types and account groups, and a combined statement of cash flows.

The reports are based on information recorded using the Uniform Municipal Accounting System (UMAS) of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. The same information was used to prepare Schedule A.

An audit of the Town's financial records by Bill Fraher, C.P.A., has been completed and the results of this audit are available in my office for public inspection. The books of the Town are also open for public inspection during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank H. Messer

Finance Director

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2002

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES			
Property Taxes	\$ 5,684,612	\$ 5,631,900	\$ (52,712)
Excise Taxes	629,845	639,864	10,019
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	14,000	14,280	280
Departmental Charges for Services	1,470,000	1,453,567	(16,433)
Licenses and Permit	111,589	124,590	13,001
Intergovernmental	1,341,216	1,273,623	(67,593)
Fines	67,500	85,645	18,145
Special Assessments	23,500	17,238	(6,262)
Investment Income	101,461	53,970	(47,491)
Other	<u>0</u>	<u>13,484</u>	<u>13,464</u>
Total Revenue	<u>9,443,723</u>	<u>9,308,141</u>	<u>(135,582)</u>
EXPENDITURES			
General Government	577,900	550,746	27,154
Public Safety	1,062,884	1,034,539	28,345
Education	4,472,317	4,472,317	0
Public Works	2,062,302	2,009,435	52,867
Human Services	186,902	171,294	15,608
Recreation and Culture	208,923	202,507	6,416
Debt Service	1,009,926	1,009,600	326
State and County Assessments	32,802	32,802	0
Employee Benefits	279,465	312,742	(33,277)
Insurance	<u>93,073</u>	<u>74,771</u>	<u>18,302</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>9,986,494</u>	<u>9,870,753</u>	<u>115,741</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures	(547,771)	(562,612)	(19,841)
Other Financing Sources (Used)			
Operating Transfers In (Out)	<u>87,049</u>	<u>87,049</u>	<u>0</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures and other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>\$ (455,722)</u>	<u>\$ (475,563)</u>	<u>\$ (19,841)</u>

**TOWN OF MERRIMAC
GENERAL LONG TERM OBLIGATIONS
FISCAL YEAR 2002**

Purpose and Original Amount Issued	Issue Date	Rate	Balance 7/1/2001	New Issues	Principal Payments	Balance 6/30/2002	Interest This Year
Sewer Construction #1							
\$1,035,700	1995	5.00%	379,500		34,500	345,000	18,113
Sewer Construction #2							
\$391,300	1995	5.00%	39,130		19,565	19,565	1,467
Filter Bed Construction #1							
\$1,608,000	1995	6.4% to 7.25%	888,000		80,000	808,000	59,960
School Const Donahue							
\$6,265,000	1995	5.05% to 6.75%	3,990,000		325,000	3,665,000	226,400
School Const Sweetsir							
\$1,105,000	1996	4.5% to 7.5%	585,000		45,000	540,000	31,185
Fire Truck Lease							
\$167,918	1998	5.00%	45,143		45,143	0	2,288
Title V							
\$200,000	1999	0.00%	177,799		11,101	166,698	0
Multi-Purpose Loans							
\$1,910,000	2000	5.125% to 6.5%	1,790,000		120,000	1,670,000	95,086
River Road Sewer							
\$149,856	2000	1.00%	145,457		4,446	141,011	1,652
Multi-Purpose Loans							
\$999,000	2001	5.10%	999,000		150,000	849,000	72,599
Multi-Purpose Loans							
\$310,000	2001	5.50% to 5.75%	310,000		45,000	265,000	17,160
Multi-Purpose Loans							
\$356,000	2002	3.79%		356,000		356,000	
Totals			\$ 9,349,029	\$ 356,000	\$ 879,755	\$ 8,825,274	\$ 525,910

**TOWN OF MERRIMAC
COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2002**

	PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE	FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE	Total Memorandum (Only)
	Electric Enterprise Fund	Non-Expendable Trust	
Cash Flows From Operation Activities			
Cash Received from Customers	\$ 2,458,838	\$	\$ 2,458,838
Cash Paid to Suppliers & Employees	(2,076,304)		(2,076,304)
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	(13,000)		(13,000)
Transfers to Expendable Trust Funds		(74,621)	(74,621)
Cash Received from Trust Activities		9,000	9,000
Net Cash Provided by Operation Activities	<u>369,534</u>	<u>(65,621)</u>	<u>303,913</u>
Cash Flow from Capital and Related Financing Activities			
Capital Expenditures	(615,052)		(615,052)
Interest Expense	(30,099)		(30,099)
Contributions in Aid of Const & Other	216,386		216,386
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Capital and Related Financing Activities	<u>(428,765)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(428,765)</u>
Cash Flow from Investing Activities			
Purchase and Sales of Investments (Net)		65,026	65,026
Interest and Dividends on Investments	34,269		34,269
Cash Provided by Investing Activities	<u>34,269</u>	<u>65,026</u>	<u>99,295</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(24,962)	(595)	(25,557)
Cash and Cash Equivalents Beginning	<u>634,728</u>	<u>111,957</u>	<u>746,685</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year	<u>\$ 609,766</u>	<u>\$ 111,362</u>	<u>\$ 721,128</u>
Reconciliation of Net Income to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:			
Net Income	\$ 152,174	\$ (65,621)	\$ 86,553
Depreciation	211,058		211,058
Increase in Accounts Receivable	(41,500)		(41,500)
Decrease in Prepayments (Other Assets)	182,979		182,979
Decrease in Accounts Payable	(135,698)		(135,698)
Other, Net	521		521
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	<u>\$ 369,534</u>	<u>(65,621)</u>	<u>303,913</u>

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET – ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUPS
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002

	General Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	Account Group	Total (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Electric Enterprise Fund	Trust & Agency	General Long-Term Obligations	
<u>Assets</u>							
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 854,586	\$ 533,966	\$ 223,267	\$ 609,766	\$ 874,957	\$	\$ 3,096,542
Other Investments					124,855		124,855
Receivables							
Property Taxes	85,290						85,290
Tax Liens and Foreclosures	177,547						177,547
Motor Vehicle Excise	67,751						67,751
User Charges and Other	166,722			157,986			324,708
Special Assessments	148,843						148,843
Less: Allowance for Abatements & Uncollectables	(13,325)			(12,638)			(25,963)
Due From Other Governments		41,814					41,814
Other Assets				1,161,288			1,161,288
Property, Plant and Equipment, Net				2,296,547			2,296,547
Amounts To Be Provided for Retirement of Bonds						8,269,508	8,269,508
Total Assets	\$ 1,487,414	\$ 575,780	\$ 223,267	\$ 4,212,949	\$ 999,812	\$ 8,269,508	\$ 15,768,730
<u>Liabilities and Fund Equity</u>							
Warrants Payable							
Other Accrued Liabilities	\$ 47,137	\$	\$ 30,638	\$ 120,830	\$	\$	\$ 198,605
Bonds Payable	18,459			55,526			73,985
Deferred Revenue				545,580		8,269,508	8,815,088
Other Liabilities	595,587						595,587
Total Assets	\$ 661,183	\$ 0	\$ 30,638	\$ 79,697	\$ 59,616	\$ 8,269,508	\$ 10,462,578
<u>Fund Equity</u>							
Retained Earnings							
Reserved				513,732			513,732
Unreserved				2,257,584			2,257,584
Fund Balances:							
Reserved For Encumbrances	433,833						433,833
Reserved For Other	530						530
Unreserved							0
Designated	175,447				940,196		1,115,643
Undesignated	216,421	575,780	192,629				984,830
Total Fund Equity	826,231	575,780	192,629	2,771,316	940,196	0	5,306,152
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	\$ 1,487,414	\$ 575,780	\$ 223,267	\$ 4,212,949	\$ 999,812	\$ 8,269,508	\$ 15,768,730

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board of Assessors respectfully submits the following report for the calendar year 2002.

For fiscal 2002 the Assessors were able to report new growth of \$138,000. This amount decreased to \$99,000 for fiscal 2003 due to less new homes being built during 2001. The Town was under the levy limit by \$3,400 for fiscal 2002, leaving it with little room for additional spending. This amount decreased even further to \$2,100 for fiscal 2003.

The Assessors have advertised for bids for the upcoming revaluation due for fiscal 2004. Sales of properties will be analyzed and a number of properties examined to determine new values. There has been an increase in market value since the last revaluation was done so homeowners should expect an increase in their value for fiscal 2004.

We are continuing to work with Merrimack Valley Planning Commission on a new set of maps. This updated version of maps will not only show the lots but also wet lands, Town owned lands, Chapter 61 lands, zoning and waterways. At this time, the Assessors office is working to verify, to the best of our ability, the dimensions of each lot. This is no easy undertaking as we are researching deeds and old plans, which are not always clear on the dimensions.

The Board of Assessors

Edward R. Davis, Chairman	Term expires 2003
George W. Mutti, Member	Term expires 2005
Diane F. Cole, Member	Term expires 2004

Joyce Clohecyc
Clerk

Michelle Barry
Assistant Clerk

**ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS
Tax Rate Recapitulation Fiscal 2002**

1.	Tax Rate Summary	
	A. Total Amount to be Raised	\$10,273,091.47
	B. Total Estimated Receipts Revenue	4,580,579.75
	C. Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation (Levy)	5,692,511.72
	D. Classified Tax Levies	
	1. Residential	94.0073%
	2. Open Space	0
	3. Commercial	3.3245
	4. Industrial	1.6819
	5. Personal Property	.9863
		<u>100.000%</u>
2.	Amount to Raise	
	A. Appropriation	\$10,143,793.75
	B. Cherry Sheet Offsets	61,496.00
	C. State & Cherry Sheet Charges	32,802.00
	D. Overlay	34,999.72
	Total Amount to be Raised	\$10,273,091.47
3.	Estimated Receipts and Other Revenue	
	A. Estimated Receipts — State	\$ 1,303,250.00
	B. Estimated Receipts — Local	2,562,257.00
	C. Revenue Appropriated	715,072.75
	D. Other Revenues to Reduce Tax Rate Total	0
	Total	\$ 4,580,579.75

Number of Taxable Accounts	
Residential Single	1,494
Residential Two	118
Residential Three	5
Residential Apt Bldg	19
Residential Land	195
Condominiums	125
Commercial	55
Industrial	22
Commercial Other	60
Personal Property	126

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

The past year saw the Merrimac Planning Board achieve several major accomplishments. The work of the Master Plan committee, under the direction of the Planning Board and leadership of Sandy Verner, was completed and on August 5, 2002 the Planning Board adopted and ratified the first new Comprehensive Master Plan for the Town in over two decades. The approval was the culmination of over two year's worth of work from a diversified committee of townspeople and the professional services of Community Opportunities Group (COG) of Boston. As a result of the completion of the Comprehensive Master Plan, a Master Plan Implementation Committee has been established and is working on some of the most important recommendations outlined in the new Master Plan. The Planning Board, with the support of Cammett Engineering, has begun a comprehensive revision of the Subdivision Rules and Regulations which will implement additional recommendations of the Master Plan.

Merrimac applied for Executive Order 418 funding. This \$30,000 state grant will primarily be used to revise and rewrite the Zoning By-Law for the Town. A Zoning By-Law subcommittee has been created and anticipates presenting major revisions to the zoning by-laws to Town Meeting in the fall of 2003.

The board approved two subdivisions this past year. One is an 11-lot subdivision off Battis Road proposed by the Waterhouse Realty Trust. The approval was subsequently withdrawn when the developer breached approval conditions. The developer appealed the withdrawal and the appeal remained in litigation as of the end of the year. The other approval was for a 15-lot subdivision off Bear Hill Road proposed by Brian Boyle. This is the site of the previously proposed Chapter 40B condominium complex. Thanks to efforts by the Board of Selectmen, the Planning Board, and others, the project was revised to the approved subdivision. This project also remains in litigation due to an appeal of the approval. The board also endorsed 14 Approval Not Required lots throughout the town.

The board returned a total of \$23,501.00 in filing fees and charges to the town in calendar year 2002. The board's expense budget was \$3118.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Sinibaldi, Chairman

Members & Terms

Robert Sinibaldi	2006
Raymond Gingras	2005
Earl Baumgardner	2004
Ricky Pincario	2003
John Thomas (appt.)	2003 (Term of 2007)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Gentlemen:

As Town Clerk of the Town of Merrimac, I hereby submit my annual report for the year 2002.

BIRTHS

Number of births recorded	63
Males	28
Females	35
Father, native born	59
Mother, native born	61
Father and Mother both native born	57
Father and Mother both foreign born	0
Mixed parentage	5

MARRIAGES

Number of marriages recorded	17
First marriage of groom	14
First marriage of bride	10
Groom, native born	15
Bride, native born	14
Average age of groom	31yr. 8m
Average age of bride	30yr. 1m

DEATHS

Number of deaths recorded	39
Males	27
Females	12
Under five years	0
Males, native born	27
Females, native born	10
Parents, native born	21
Parents, foreign born	8
Mixed parentage	10
Average age	70yr. 1m
Oldest person	102

LICENSES

Total dog licenses	642
Male	330
Female	27
Spayed Female	286
Kennel licenses	0
Sporting licenses	140
Minor's sporting licenses	5

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia E. True
Town Clerk

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL OFFICER

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen: Activities from July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002

The total number of dogs licensed for the year of April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002 was 677. Dogs licensed by June 30, 2002 were 602. Mass General Laws and Town laws require the licensing of all dogs. Proof of rabies vaccination is required to obtain a license, therefore, this is our best protection against this fatal disease. A Rabies Clinic was held on May 1, 2002 and 27 animals were vaccinated.

Forty-eight dogs were picked up running at large in the town. All but one had owners; and that stray, after being held 10 days, was adopted. Leash Law Violations brought in \$1,095.00 to the General fund of the Town. The leash law does apply to every dog and all the time. Two kittens and an adult cat were picked up and adopted. One cat was returned to its owner.

The Animal Care and Control Officer does not pick up dead animals; thus figures are not exact. However, there were (approximately) dead: 2 dogs, 6 cats, 5 raccoons, 2 skunks, 2 woodchucks, 1 fox, 2 bats, a crow, a hawk, and a beaver. Destroyed because they were sick or severely injured were: 4 fox, 2 skunks, and 3 raccoons. Two cats were tested for rabies and both were negative. An injured Cooper's Hawk was taken to a wildlife rehabilitator and a Canadian goose was cut out of fishline. Please be careful to dispose of fishline, plastic soda six-pack holders and Yoplait yogurt containers properly, as these become serious "traps" for wildlife.

Quarantined were: 8 dogs for biting humans (10 days), 1 cat, for a wound of unknown origin (for 45 days because the rabies vaccination was current), and 3 cats (for 6 months because of being unvaccinated for rabies and they had wounds of unknown origin). Rabies vaccinations are required by law for dogs and cats.

Loose dogs killed a cat and a raccoon. Also killed by either a coyote or a dog were two lambs. Three injured dogs were transported to veterinarians.

Calls received for lost dogs were 68 and found dogs were 83. Calls received for lost cats were 21 and found cats were 28. Complaints concerning nuisance dog behaviors were eighty and there were twenty-four complaints on barking dogs.

Calls for general advice about wildlife or concerns about behavior or illness of wildlife totaled sixty-seven calls. Continue to practice good exclusion of wildlife around homes, barns, and outbuildings. Also do not feed wildlife or pets outside.

There were two horses, three cows, and a rooster loose for domestic animals escaping their fences. Many people in Merrimac have horses and much of the town is zoned residential/agricultural.

Respectfully submitted,

Madelyn Cirinna

Animal Care and Control Officer

ANNUAL REPORT OF CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

As in other years, departments were asked to submit forms documenting their capital requests for FY'03 and the next five years. Capital items included on the request forms and on the inventory forms maintained by the departments must have life duration of at least five years and initial cost of \$5,000 or more. February through April the committee met with the departments and reviewed supporting documents to determine its recommendations. The criteria applied for developing recommendations in order of priority are: necessary to respond to state or federal mandate; public health and/or safety consideration; or operational necessity. The available source of funding for each item is also taken into consideration in making the recommendations.

At the May 6, 2002 Special and Annual Town Meetings, the CPC recommended expenditures for five capital items for a total of \$87,000 funded through Free Cash, two capital items for a total of \$133,500 funded through Water user fees, and \$2,850,000 for renovation of Town Hall funded through bonding authorized by a debt exclusion vote.

A report from the CPC was distributed to Town Meeting voters. The report included an analysis of the tax impact of proposed major capital projects and other initiatives; a summary of the recommendations for articles appearing on the warrants; and a listing of departments' requested capital expenditures through FY'07.

Another Special Town Meeting was posted for November 18, 2002, but business was delayed until a quorum was present on January 13, 2003. The CPC recommended support for the one capital item that appeared on the warrant for \$90,000 for engineering services for improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Facility. The bonding issued for this project will be funded through Sewer user fees.

Throughout the course of the year the CPC reviewed progress on ongoing capital projects and discussed the impact of upcoming proposed projects and their potential revenue sources.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Venner, Chairperson

Judy Armstrong, Representing the Finance Committee

Janet Bruno, Representing the Board of Selectmen

Ed Madden

vacancy

2002 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health meets at 7:00 PM on the first Thursday of each month. We may be contacted at 978-346-4066.

The office is staffed on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

The Title V Grant for Merrimac has been exhausted, and funding is not available to homeowners who need to replace a sewage disposal system.

Edward Gallagher is the Health Inspector for the Town. He has a BS Degree in Engineering Technology/Environmental Option. He is a Registered Sanitarian and Soil Evaluator and is a Certified Title V Site Inspector. He is also a licensed Waste Water Operator. Ed inspects food establishments and disposal system installations, reviews septic designs, witnesses percolation and deep hole tests, responds to health-related complaints, and performs other Title V and health-related duties as required.

Laura Weaver, Chairperson, is available to do soil testing and to witness percolation and deep hole tests.

Deborah Ketchen, Certified Professional Food Manager, is available to inspect food establishments, perform soil tests, and to witness percolation and deep hole tests.

Eileen Hurley, Office Administrator, is MAHB Certified, and assists contractors and the general public by responding to their questions and requirements. She also oversees the Title V Program and maintains central records and minutes of meetings.

During 2002, the Board responded to more than twenty complaints, litigated two enforcement issues, and issued the following licenses and permits which generated \$9,745 in revenue.

LICENSES			PERMITS		
Qty.	Category	Fee	Qty.	Category	Fee
22	Food	\$ 1,025	10	Disposal System	\$ 940
22	Installer	2,550	6	Certificate of Compliance	150
4	Hauler	215	1	Perc. & Deep Hole Test	100
6	Muscular Therapy	300	14	Well & Pump	4,200
2	Tanning	115			
3	Tobacco Sales	100			
1	Camp	50			
Total:		\$ 4,355	Total:		\$ 5,390

Respectfully submitted,

Merrimac Board of Health

Eileen Hurley

Term expires 2005

Deborah Ketchen

Term expires 2004

Laura Weaver

Term expires 2003

MERRIMAC COUNCIL ON AGING

Annual Report FY02

The Move:

The staff and volunteers of the Merrimac Council on Aging were busy throughout July and August getting prepared to move into the new Senior Center. Lucent Technologies of Andover donated office furniture, including computer desks, chairs, and file cabinets worth about \$12,000 and the Merrimac Police Department provided the labor by transporting the furniture and reassembling it at the new center in time for our move. We "closed" the old senior center (transportation, outreach, and nursing continued) for a week while we packed and moved. With the help of many volunteers, everything went very smoothly and we were open for business the day after Labor Day.

Dedication of Game Room:

In December we dedicated the Game Room furniture that was donated by the *International Order of Oddfellows*, Newburyport Chapter, in memory of two Merrimac residents who were instrumental in helping us get funding and furniture for the Game Room. The pool table, chairs and benches are from the late 1800's and truly beautiful.

COA Hosts Holiday Party for Town Workers:

The Council on Aging hosted a holiday luncheon party for all of the town workers in December. It was the first time all workers were able to come together, some meeting for the first time. The Council wanted to thank everyone for their support during our building project and treated them to a smorgasbord that stretched the length of 6 tables. They were invited to play pool, relax and enjoy the music provided by a local musician. The Selectmen gave their permission for workers to attend the event and it was voted unanimously to make this an annual event.

New Programs:

The new Senior Center has allowed programs to be improved and new ones to be established. Programs that could not be held at the center due to space problems have now returned: New programs: yoga (multi-levels), chair yoga, pool, whist, cribbage, and line dancing; the exercise program is able to meet at the new center now that there is a large enough space.

Wellness Program:

Working with the COA nurse (who is also the town Public Health Nurse) we have been developing special programs and educational material for our elders.

Meals Program:

Our meals program continues to be a great success. We use Harbor Schools, Inc. from Merrimac and Amesbury campuses, (Monday & Wednesday-Amesbury, Tuesday & Thursday-Merrimac). The students are troubled teens who are placed there by the court; many have never had a relationship with older adults, and very few positive ones. The students not only learn a vocation, but in the process have developed a positive relationship with the seniors in Merrimac who they meet and serve several times a year.

During holidays throughout the year the students prepare the meal, set tables & decorate their gym, serve approximately the 100 seniors who attend, and they provide entertainment with poetry renditions and singing. During vacation periods, the meal program continues through "Guest Chefs." Guest chefs include staff members, COA Board members, senior volunteers, local community volunteers and even our state representative, Rep. Harriett Stanley and her staff. The only problem with our program is that it is "So Good!" The meals program receives local support from Journey Insurance Co., Pilgrim Congregational Church and The Merrimac Savings Bank, which allows the luncheon costs to remain affordable to our seniors.

Health Care Finance & Policy Grant:

The Merrimac COA was awarded a \$50,000 grant to finish two rooms on the 2nd floor that were incomplete. A wellness library and activity room was completed in the spring of 2002.

New Senior Center Dedication and Open House:

With the Senior Center now complete, the Council on Aging hosted a Dedication and Open House on May 30th

Future Goals:

The Senior Center property extends several acres. The Friends of the Council on Aging are now hoping to raise enough money to build a music gazebo/bandstand for summer concerts.

The staff is now working at "connecting and reconnecting" with new seniors and seniors who do not currently use the senior center through a mailing of a new brochure highlighting who we are and what we do.

Thanks to Local Support:

The Merrimac COA has been very fortunate to have received so much support from the residents at Town Meeting who voted to help finance our senior center, volunteers who helped fundraise and donated so much, and our Friends group that worked so hard to make it all possible. It has been a team effort.

FUNDING SOURCES		PERCENTAGES OF UNDUPLICATED ELDERS	
Town Budget	\$137,148.57	Women:	69%
Special Article: Office Furniture	\$9,600.00	Men:	31%
Health Care Finance & Policy Grant	\$50,000.00	Minority:	1%
Formula Grant (State)	\$3,875.00	Nursing Home:	1%
Friends of the COA	\$6,605.93	Disabled:	7%
Donated Supplies*	\$20,205.00	75 or Over	67%
COA Gift Account**	\$16,193	VOLUNTEERS:	136
Elder Services of Merrimack Valley	\$4,536.00	Volunteer Hours:	7,790
Senior Aide***		NON-ELDERS SERVED:	138
UNDUPLICATED ELDERS SERVED:	665	Women:	99
Women:	457	Men:	39
Men:	208		
MEAL SITE TOTALS			
	Duplicated	Unduplicated	
Women:	2,164	186	
Men:	1,207	73	
TOTALS	3,371	259	

* Donated Supplies: luncheon/food, supplies-program/office, books, magazine subscriptions
** Gift Account: Senior Center Activities & Programs
*** Direct Service: Placement of Senior Aide at Senior Center

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello, Chair
Terri Walden, Treasurer
Dorothy Lumsden, Secretary
Mary Cheney
Dorothy Cloyd
Herbert Gynan

Term Expires '04
Term Expires '04
Term Expires '05
Term Expires '04
Term Expires '04
Term Expires '05

Irene Kimbrell
Inez Lund
Roy Minihan
James Murphy
Victor Perreault

Term Expires '05
Term Expires '04
Term Expires '04
Term Expires '05
Term Expires '04

MERRIMAC HOUSING AUTHORITY
52 MERRI VILLAGE • MERRIMAC, MASSACHUSETTS 01860
TELEPHONE: (978) 346-8231

**Annual report of the Merrimac Housing Authority
to the Merrimac Board of Selectmen**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen,

The Merrimac Housing Authority owns and manages 52 units of housing in the Town of Merrimac. The Merri-Village project located on Middle Street contains forty-eight units of one bedroom housing funded under the Chapter 667 program. This program serves individuals and couples who are elderly or disabled. In addition to the 48 one-bedroom units, the MHA owns and manages two duplex units. These are multi-bedroom units, primarily intended for families. Merrimac residents receive a priority for occupancy into these programs. The Merrimac Housing Authority collected \$167,111 in rental

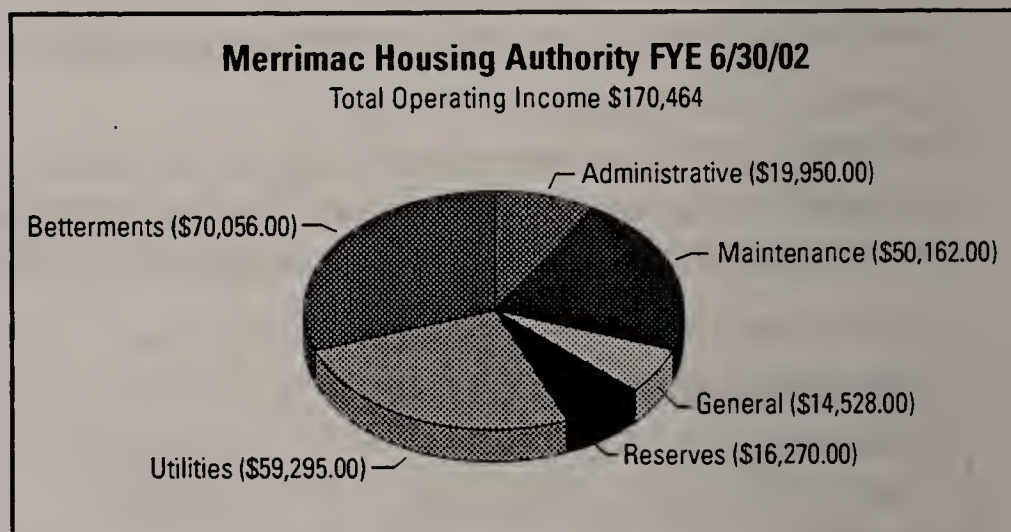
income during the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2002 for the 52 units under management. Average monthly rent for the Merrimac Authority Housing units is \$290. The average monthly cost of operation is \$278 per unit month.

The Merrimac Housing Authority also administers a 22 unit program of Housing Choice Vouchers (formerly known as the Section 8 Housing Certificate Program). This is a federally subsidized housing program administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Housing Choice Voucher Program is not unlike its predecessor with the exception of allowing the recipients to pay more than 30% of their monthly adjusted income toward housing costs.

A key component of the new Housing Choice Voucher Program is that program recipients can move to any community that has a recipient housing agency. This mobility component is a great service to voucher holders, but creates additional bureaucratic burdens for the sponsoring agency. Under the aegis of this Federally-funded program, the resident pays between 30% and 40% of their monthly income towards their gross monthly rent. The Gross rent includes heat, cooking, hot water and electricity and any other housing costs that are required to make the unit habitable under the State sanitary code. Each year, with some parameters established by HUD, the Merrimac Housing Authority determines the total rent amount which can be paid by the program. This limit is set by the Federal government, but the local housing authority can increase that gross rent limit up to 110% of Fair Market Rent if the rental market so demands.

Section 8 Fair Market Rents and Payment Standards

The enclosed listing of the maximum allowable fair market rents are put out by the Dept. of HUD for our region. Fair Market Rents include all utilities except water & sewer.



Merrimac Housing Authority
Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program
Payment Standards Effective : October 1, 2002

Fair Market Rents

Size	Current FMR	New 110% Payment Standard
Zero Bedroom	\$607	\$668
One Bedroom	\$733	\$806
Two Bedroom	\$923	\$1015
Three Bedroom	\$1153	\$1268
Four Bedroom	\$1418	\$1560

Example: The housing authority will subsidize a family with a 3 bedroom certificate for an apartment that can cost up to \$1268 per month, **Depending on its condition, size and amenities**. The family would then pay 30% to 40% of their income toward the total rent amount, and the Housing Authority would pay the balance as a subsidy.

In order to maintain as many units in the Town of Merrimac as possible, the Housing authority is exploring conversion of 20% of our 22 units to a project-based program. We are also exploring another new use of Section 8 subsidies, that of allowing home purchase. The program is still very new and requires that the perspective homeowner receive certified Homebuyer Training course. During the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2002, the MHA spent \$135,743 in Federal subsidy dollars to subsidize twenty-one (21) units each month. That is an average monthly subsidy of \$538 paid to property owner on the tenants' behalf.

Merrimac Housing Authority Board of Commissioners as of Dec. 31, 2002

Name	Position	Term Expiration
Dorothy Cloyd	Chairman	Term expires: May 12, 2005
Geri Shepherd	Vice Chairman and Governor's Appointee	Term expires: June 3, 2004
Stephen True	Vice Treasurer	Term expires: May 8, 2003
Altha E. Ottman	Member at Large	Term expires: May 11, 2007
Shirley Jones	Treasurer	Term expires: May 12, 2006

Merrimac Housing Authority Personnel

Mr. Robert J. Mazzone	Executive Director (part-time)	employed 2/01/2000
Ms. Jeanne Koch	Administrative Asst. (part-time)	employed 4/18/1995
Ms. Margaret Gleason	Leased Housing Admin. (part-time)	employed 5/01/1998
Ms. Alice Granlund	Tenant Selection Coordinator (part-time)	employed 5/08/1998
Mr. Robert K. Samoisette	Maintenance Mechanic (part-time))	employed 11/01/1991

There is no longer any asset limit for the state housing program. Income from assets will be imputed and added to annual income to determine qualification under the income guidelines above.

Residents at the 48-unit State Aided Merri Village Project on Middle Street pay approximately 30% of their monthly income for rent; all utilities are included and the units are heated electrically. Special deductions are given for working elderly residents over the age 62 and over and for medical expenses.

Residents at State Aided Family Housing pay approximately 25% of their monthly income for rent: Utilities are not included the units are heated by gas. This standard applies to the residents of the two duplexes owned by the MHA in Merrimac.

Modernization Plans

During the current calendar year, the Merrimac Housing Authority will undergo two modernization programs that should greatly improve the safety and habitability of the 48 units at Men-village.

- An Electrical upgrade program will include installation of GECI (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter) outlets where required by code, new electric bathroom heaters and the upgrade of other essential electrical systems. The total cost of this project is expected to be \$69,860. The general contractor selected through a public bidding process is Brothers Electric of Topsfield, MA. The design firm is RES of Hudson, MA.
- The main drive through the Men-Village project and some sidewalks are scheduled to be paved during 2003. This process has just begun. The design firm will be Cammett Engineering of Amesbury. The General Contractor has not yet been selected. This selection will be conducted as required by State Procurement Law. This project has been assigned a total budget of \$171,902.

Management Summary:

The Merrimac Housing Authority operates 3 separate housing programs, which account for 74 units of affordable housing for Merrimac Residents. In addition, the Authority staff administer 9 separate housing programs for the Amesbury Housing Authority for a combined total of 315 units of public housing and 108 units of federal subsidy. The agency also monitors all modernization work and is in charge with applying for additional capital improvement funds when they are available.

The Merrimac Housing Authority has pledged to work closely with the Merrimac Board of Selectmen and the Town Planning Board in their attempts to bring more local control to affordable housing development in Merrimac and to be in closer compliance with the housing development goals contained in MGL Ch 40B and Executive Order 418.

The Merrimac Housing Authority holds regular meetings are currently held the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 52 Men Village at 4:00pm. The Annual Meeting is held on the 3rd Wednesday in June. Under the open meeting law, all meetings must be posted at the Town Clerk's office at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting time and date.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert J. Mazzone
Executive Secretary to
The Merrimac Housing Authority Board

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Calendar Year 2002 Report of the Commission

Calendar year 2002 was a year of reorganization for the Playground Commission. The loss of James Hume and Larry Fisher, two of the more tenured members of the Board left the responsibility of operations to remaining members Peter Kitsakos and Philip Parry. Mr. Don Ackerman was appointed late in 2001 and subsequently elected in 2002. Mr. Hume's late resignation left no time for placement on the 2002 ballot and there were no other candidates in the 2002 election. In November of 2002 Mr. David Creeseey was appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

The focus of the Commission for 2002 was to stabilize operations for the parks systems and the users of each different component, upgrade components and services where possible and to address the long term needs of the community per the finding of the Master Plan as developed.

The Board developed a more efficient operational process for field maintenance as the usual complement of three seasonal employees was reduced to two with the loss of David Sharkey and Ernie Packard from the labor force for the season. Andrew Warren was added as the second seasonal employee.

The Board made improvements to the Locust Street fields, repaired bleachers and installed stone dust in the batting cage. All field lights on the baseball and softball fields are fully operational.

New swim area floats were purchased for Indian Head Park and minor repairs were made to the roof of the old storage building at the park. The Boy Scouts painted the building late in the season.

The summer program provided services to approximately 225 community children, use of the soccer fields was facilitated for more than children and adults and the baseball/softball fields had programmed usage of over 600 children and youths from 5 different leagues representing ages 5-18.

The Board in the summer of 2002 permitted Pentucket Youth Football use of the Emery Street facility for practices through 2006.

The terms of the Board members are as follows:

Peter Kitsakos	Expires 2003
Philip Parry	Expires 2005
Donald Ackerman	Expires 2007
David Creeseey	Expires 2003

Respectfully Submitted
Peter Kitsakos, Chairman

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF CEMETERIES

This has been a transitional year for the Trustees of Cemeteries. With the resignation of 2 members, the Board of Selectmen appointed Patricia Casey and Gordon Rines to fill the unexpired terms. Thank you to those who have served as a Cemetery Trustee in the past and a thank you to those currently serving on the board. The Board was organized with Pat Casey elected Chairman and Betty Emery elected Clerk.

A Cemetery Department office has been set up in the maintenance building at Locust Grove Road. Meetings, records, sales, deeds and all business are conducted at this site.

During the past year the Trustees have made assessments of all cemeteries. Tree work has been done at Locust Grove and Church Street Cemeteries. Eight Monuments were reset or repaired at Church Street. The original Locust Grove Cemetery sign has been repaired and reinstalled at the end of Locust Street. The flagpole at Locust Grove Cemetery was repainted through the generosity of Richard Gilmore. The roof at the maintenance building was resingled. Several drainage problems at Locust Grove Cemetery have been corrected.

Future plans include the repaving of sections of Locust Grove, the plotting out and design of 2 sections of Locust Grove by an engineering firm and repairs to the stonewalls at Lower Corner and Church Street Cemeteries.

The past year there were 20 grave openings and the sale of 18 lots producing revenues totaling \$31,750.00.

The trustees wish to thank our full time employee, Harold White III, for his dedicated service and the Highway Department for their cooperation.

Members:

Patricia Casey	Appointment expires May 2003
Gordon Rines	Appointment expires May 2003
Elizabeth L Emery	Term expires May 2005

Respectfully Submitted,
Elizabeth L Emery
Clerk

**Actions Taken at Special Town Meeting
Held at Frederick N. Sweetsir School on May 6, 2002**

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer various sums to supplement various town employee salaries and department expense accounts; or take any other action relative thereto.

Tabled

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$2,850,000, for remodeling, reconstructing or making extraordinary repairs to the Town Hall building located on School Street, Merrimac, Mass. and; to fund said appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow a sum of money and to issue bonds and notes therefore in accordance with M.G.L. Chap 44, Section 7 (3A) or any other enabling authority, or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money in the amount of \$243,818 to pay its share of the additional assessment of the Pentucket Regional School District Budget for Fiscal 2003 required to fully fund such assessment and thereby approve the district's budget for the year, provided that such additional appropriation be contingent on the approval of a levy limit override question under General Laws Chapter 59, section 21 C.; or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

**Actions Taken at Annual Town Meeting
Held at Frederick N. Sweetsir School on May 6, 2002**

ARTICLE 1. The Town voted to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town of Merrimac as provided by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 41, Section 108 as amended: Moderator, Town Clerk. Three Selectmen. Three Assessors, Treasurer, Tree Warden, Three Commissioners of Municipal Light, Three Water Commissioners, Three Sewer Commissioners, and raise, appropriate or transfer sums of money therefore and to determine sums of money to be raised or transferred to defray the necessary and usual charges and expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2002 and make appropriations for the same, said sums of money so raised, appropriated or transferred to be expended for specific purposes as follows.

MATURING DEBT	\$ 580,171
INTEREST ON DEBT	361,971
GEN GOV UNCLASSIFIED	479,291
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	486,016
PUBLIC SAFETY	953,653
HEALTH & SANITATION	627,588
HIGHWAY	358,487
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	134,450
WHITTIER	408,511
PENTUCKET	4,210,840
LIBRARY	154,787
RECREATION	56,289
WATER	624,338
CEMETERY	<u>43,033</u>
TOTAL OMNIBUS	\$ 9,479,425

*Hand Vote
Motion Carried*

**Actions Taken at Annual Town Meeting
Held at Frederick N. Sweetsir School on May 6, 2002**

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the Electric Light Operating Balance, said money to be used by the Assessors as part of the estimated receipts used to fix the tax rate for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2002; or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer a sum of money in the amount of \$13,500 for revaluation to Assessor's Revaluation Account; or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money in the amount of \$6,000 to be expended by the Board of Assessors to perform duties and incur expenses relating to any equalization or revaluation of the Town; to authorize the Board of Assessors to hire themselves at the rate of \$1500 per hour and to hire such necessary assistance as the Board of Assessors may deem necessary or convenient; or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$44,401 from WPAT Loan Repayment Receipts Reserved to be used as available funds in support of debt service payments associated with Title V Septic Loan repayment Principal and Interest for EY 00-02; or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from Trash Offset Receipts a sum of money in the amount of \$85,000 for Solid Waste Recycling and Disposal; or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of the amount of \$6,000 from Trash Offset Receipts for collection of Household Hazard Waste and Leaf Collection; or take any action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money in the amount of \$194,000 for Solid Waste Recycling and Disposal; or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash a sum of money in the amount of \$148,446.98 for the following purposes:

Cemetery Repair Road Locust Grove	\$ 5,000.00
Fire Hose & Assorted Fittings	22,500.00
Fire Alarm Trunk Line/Boxes	7,000.00
Highway Waste Oil Burner	7,500.00
Police Cruiser	30,000.00
Municipal Building Renovations	24,500.00
Fire Department EMT Jackets	2,000.00
Old Senior Center Repairs & Renovations	4,800.00
Town Clerk Record Repair & Preservation	1,960.50
Recreation New Field Repairs	3,000.00
Sewer Capital Fund (FY01 Sewer Surplus)	1,562.79
Water Capital Fund (FY01 Water Surplus)	38,623.69
Total	<u>\$ 148,446.98</u>

or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from sewer revenues or transfer from available funds the sum of \$5,000.00 for sewer inspections; or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the engineering and construction of a sewer main on Harriman Road, Merrimac, Mass. (#5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 20) on Red Oak Acres(#1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12) for which the residents shall provide full repayment plus interest for all associated work according to the Sewer Use Ordinance, Article VI, Section 2, Paragraph 2 and Article VII, Section 3 and; to fund said appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow and to issue bonds and notes therefore in accordance with G.L. Chap. 44 Section 7 (1), or any other enabling authority; or take any other action relative thereto.

Failed

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for engineering and construction of a sewer main on Middle Road (#25, 27, 30, 32, 34 and 46) on Emery Street (#31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, and 46) for which the residents shall provide full repayment plus interest for all associated work according to the Sewer Use Ordinance, Article VI, Section 2, Paragraph 2 and Article VII, Section 3 and; to fund said appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow and to issue bonds and notes therefore in accordance with G.L. Chap. 44 Section 1, or any other enabling authority; or take any other action relative thereto

Passed

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$100,000 for the removal of rock and expansion of the Red Oak Acres Sewer Project originally approved as Article 16 Special Town Meeting dated October 30, 2000, to include houses #11, 13, 15 and 21 Red Oak Acres, Merrimac, MA, for which the residents shall provide full repayment plus interest for all associated work according to the Sewer Use Ordinance, Article VI, Section 2, Paragraph 2 and Article VII, Section 3 and; to fund said appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow and to issue bonds and notes therefore in accordance with G.L. Chap. 44 Section 1, or any other enabling authority; or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to close out FY96 Special Article #10, "Hydraulic Analysis" in the amount of \$7,735 .75 to Water Capital Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to close out FY99 Special Article #13, "Repairs & Rehab — W. Main Street Standpipe" in the amount of \$14,320.24 to Water Capital Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to close out FY99 Special Article #16, "Computer System" in the amount of \$5,267.97 to Water Capital Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$25,000 from available funds known as Water Capital Fund for the purchase of a pickup truck, or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$108,500 from available funds: \$44,028.21 from Water Capital Fund and \$64,471.79 from Water Privilege Fund, for water source development; or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to amend Section X of the Town By Laws, effective July 1, 2002 as follows; or take any other action relative thereto.

- a. "Vacation Policy"; After the last sentence of "Permanent Part Time employees shall accrue vacation leave on a pro-rated basis", add "Every employee who is in their first year of employment with the Town and who has actually worked for six (6) months in the aggregate prior to July 1 shall be allowed to take one (1) week of vacation leave." (Allows new employee to take one week vacation after 6 months)

- b. "Longevity Policy" - Added "and \$400 per year after the twenty fifth full year of service."
(Adds new longevity category of twenty five years)
- c. "Overtime Policy" - Add new section after Holiday Policy "All hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours in a work week shall be paid for at one and one-half (1 1/2) times the employees hourly earnings. This policy shall not apply to salary compensated employees"

Passed

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, establish revolving funds for the following departments for the specific purpose outlined below for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2002 and ending June 30, 2003; or taken any other action relative thereto

a. POLICE REVOLVING FUND

Fees received for firearms licenses and permit fees to be used to pay the state its share of such fees and similar departmental needs, said expenditures to be approved by the Police Chief, and not to exceed \$5,000 during the fiscal year 2003.

b. INSPECTIONAL SERVICES REVOLVING FUND

Fees received for Accessory Apartment By-law permits to be used to pay for inspector's fees and related administrative costs, said expenditures to be approved by the Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals; not to exceed \$1,000 during the fiscal year 2003.

c. INSPECTIONAL SERVICES REVOLVING FUND

Fees received for Chapter 40B comprehensive permits to be used to pay for inspections and related costs; said expenditures to be approved by the Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals; not to exceed \$20,000 during the fiscal year 2003. (Newly Established)

d. ZONING BOARD OF APPEAL REVOLVING FUND

Fees received for applicants requesting appeal of zoning decisions to be used to pay for advertising, mailings, legal and administrative costs, said expenditures to be approved by the Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals; not to exceed \$3,500 during the fiscal year 2003.

e. BOARD OF HEALTH

Fees received for nursing programs and service to be used by the Town Nurse to pay for materials and technical services for nursing programs and health promotion programs, said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Health; nor to exceed \$1,000 during fiscal year 2003. (Newly Established)

Passed

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Law (previously known as House Bill 5007, formerly docket #4978) which provides an early retirement incentive program for certain employees; or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to accept Ahem Circle, and all associated infrastructure, with the exception of drainage and easements, as a public way in the Town of Merrimac as shown on a plan prepared by Merrimack Engineering Services and dated February 20, 2002, or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to adopt a "Demolition Delay By-Law"; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to affirm and re-adopt the Vote of the Town Meeting of May 2, 1978, Article 43 (90 yes, 6-no) which reads as follows:

"That the Town vote to discontinue the following unbuilt ways under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 82, Section 21: Brush Hill Road, beginning at property now or formerly owned by Edwin M, and Jeanette M. Tammik to Highland Road; Battis Road from the Merrimac Sanitary Land-Fill to Birch Meadows Road Birch Meadows Road from 0007 to 0007 / Birch Meadow Road Loop Huise Road in its entirety Red Oak Road (also known as Red Oak Hill Road) in its entirety Chase Road it its entirety All Fire Lanes existing in the Town of Merrimac in the year 1978"

and that the Board of Selectmen be and hereby is directed as required by law to take all necessary steps and perform all necessary acts in a timely fashion, including but not limited to proper notice to all persons, entities, authorities and or political subdivisions as may be required by law to effectuate the intent of the article. Specifically exempted from the Article shall be any portions of the above ways that presently form the frontage for any lots developed subsequently with inhabited residential housing since the original passage of Article 43 of the Town Meeting of May 2, 1978; or to take any action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money, in the amount of \$2,000, from available funds known as Free Cash for the Selectmen to initiate a feasibility study relative to the creation of a Public Works Department; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to cancel any and all plans for a Town Square Reconfiguration/ Construction Project, also known as the Federal 2003 TIP (Transportation Infrastructure Program), which is to be funded by the State and Federal Governments and scheduled to begin in the Fall of 2002 and to take any and all other action relative thereto.

Passed

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum money in the amount of \$25,000 for legal and professional costs to defend the Town's position before the State Housing Appeals Committee, and/or other judicial bodies related to rejection, or acceptance with conditions of Chapter 40B application; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

Actions Taken at Special Town Meeting Held at Frederick N. Sweetsir School on June 3, 2002

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer various sums totalling \$25,824.60 to supplement various town employee salaries and department expense accounts in the Omnibus Budget as listed below to be expended for the purposes indicated; or take any other action relative thereto.

From		To		Amount
Line	Description	Line	Description	
41.	FICA Town Share	29.	Bond Issue Cost	\$ 1,250.00
41.	FICA Town Share	87.	Bonding Town Officers	708.00
41.	FICA Town Share	95.	Telephone Expense	3,000.00
41.	FICA Town Share	174.	COA Expenses	1,685.00
162.	Highway Overtime	164.	Highway Road Maintenance	5,000.00
162.	Highway Overtime	166.	Highway Road Machinery	5,000.00
162.	Highway Overtime	167.	Highway Snow & Ice	9,181.60
				<hr/>
				TOTAL \$ 25,824.60
				<hr/>

Passed

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to accept the Acts of 2002, Chapter 11b, amending Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws, (also known as House Bill 5007) which allows cities and towns to offer early retirement programs to certain municipal employees in order to help reduce their work forces; or take any other action relative thereto.

Passed

Index

Actions Taken at Special Town Meeting May 6, 2002	49
Actions Taken at Annual Town Meeting May 6, 2002	50
Actions Taken at Annual Town Meeting May 6, 2002	51
Actions Taken at Special Town Meeting June 3, 2002	54
Animal Care and Control Officer	39
Board of Assessors	35
Board of Health	41
Board of Selectmen	7
Board of Sewer Commissioners	25
Building Inspector	23
Capital Planning	40
Cemeteries	48
Council on Aging	42
Directory of Town Officers	
Elected	3
Appointed	5
Finance Director	30
Fire Engineers	9
Housing Authority	44
Light Department	27
Memoriam	2
Parks & Recreation	47
Planning Board	37
Police Department	12
Public Library	21
School Committee	
Pentucket	15
Whittier	20
Town Clerk	38
Water Department	24

NOTES

